



Indian Mound Middle School

December 2011

Newsletter



David Witte, Principal

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Greetings from Brett Jondle,

“Looking Ahead, While Reflecting on the Past”

It's difficult to believe that yet another year has come and gone, and that we find ourselves looking ahead to another year. This time of the year is always bittersweet as I am one who enjoys routine and often struggles with change. The older I get, however, the more I understand that with change comes new opportunities and new growth. It is with that outlook that has helped me to look forward to the New Year understand the importance of reflecting on the past.

The holiday season is often a time of reflection, a time for change, a time to set new goals, as well as a time to celebrate and look ahead. The same holds true for each of us here at IMMS. This “half-way point” of the school year, allows each of us to look back at what has gone well so far, what changes are on the horizons, and also a time to celebrate our work at IMMS!

As we look back at the academic year so far, changes have surfaced that have allowed growth to occur in our building. We have implemented the use of iPads for our students for interactive learning and continue to search for new ways to provide cutting edge technological opportunities for our students and staff. Our district continues to be one of the leaders in Dane County with providing technological opportunities for our students, thanks in part to your continued support each year. Our PBIS [Positive Behavior Intervention and Support] team has implemented a new vision for our students, families, and staff that, “We A.R.R.E Spartans.” The focus is to teach, recognize, and celebrate positive behavior displayed by students and staff specifically with achievement, respect, responsibility, and empathy. In doing so, a student committee and staff members collectively created a new “Spartan Code” for each of us to live out day in and day out. In connection with our focus on celebrating achievement, IMMS has embedded an academic honor roll for students who earn between a 3.5 and 4.0 grade point average for each quarter.

This year has been a year of transition for our school as Mr. Witte has served dual roles as IMMS Principal and Director of Pupil Services. Mr. Tarnutzer has served as IMMS Associate Principal while helping with some of Mr. Witte's building principal responsibilities. I have served as IMMS Interim Associate Principal as well as seventh grade social studies teacher. We would like to thank all of you for your continued patience and understanding as we work together to make this a great year and look ahead to 2012. Your gift of patience is appreciated, and hopefully you share the excitement with the three of us about what 2012 holds in store for IMMS!

As we move into 2012, if you are like much of society, this may be a time in which you set New Year's resolutions. As an IMMS school community, we look forward to continuing to increase our students' desire to read. Language Arts teachers will work with students to set reading goals to increase their passion and also their skill. Starting this year, and into the next, the state of Wisconsin will embrace the new Common Core State Standards, and by doing so, will provide teachers guidelines to teach in a way that allows students to delve deeper into learning, experience richer discussions, and produce more meaningful work. Not only will these goals listed above continue into 2012, but will move into 2013, 2014, and 2015. This will be an exciting time for McFarland students and teachers!

Finally and most importantly, this holiday season is a time to give thanks for all that we have and what we have to look ahead to for 2012. I invite you to look back on all that your 2011 has been, and to what 2012 can be. While change is scary for many of us, it always brings substance and opportunities to each of our lives. Let's embrace the unknown and celebrate all that 2011 was for us! From our IMMS family to yours, may 2012 bring each of you peace, prosperity, and happiness.

Warmly,

Brett Jondle

Interim Associate Principal



WE A.R.E. SPARTANS

— ACHIEVEMENT RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY EMPATHY —

**School District of McFarland
Indian Mound Middle School
*Spartan Code***

**At Indian Mound Middle School,
we come together,
to create a stronger school,
by following the Spartan Code.**

**We commit to:
Achieving our goals and jumping the hurdles of life;**

**Respecting others by listening, caring, and treating one another
how we want to be treated;**

**Taking Responsibility by honoring our commitments and doing
what needs to be done;**

**Showing Empathy by understanding how others feel, standing
up for others, and offering a helping hand.**

**We strive for success,
Everyday,**

We ARE Spartans!

Created by Indian Mound Middle School Students and Staff, October 2011.



Looking out for you!

Sprigeo is a new and safe way to report bullying and safety concerns at Indian Mound Middle School.

All you need to do is go to www.sprigeo.com! There you can safely and anonymously fill out a bully report and Sprigeo will send an e-mail to our principal Mr. Witte detailing your report.

Guidance News

8th Grade Students Register for High School

On our way to the high school!

Dates to Remember for 8th Graders and H.S. Registration:

With the start of the New Year comes the impending transition to High School for our IMMS 8th graders. This is a very exciting time full of choices and uncertainties. These decisions can be supported and anxious times alleviated through active involvement for students and their parents in the decision making process. Therefore, it will be crucial to keep in mind some important dates when looking to allow for an efficient and successful transition:

Quartly: Eighth grade counselor, Mr. Kramer, is conferencing with each student to discuss their goals for high school and results from career assessments done in Prime Time and Tech Tools. The overall goal of the conferences will be to create an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) for each student as they enter the high school. These plans will follow the students to the high school and continue to be updated through conferences in 9th and 11th grade with MHS counselors, Mr. Feldner and Ms. Guenther.

Jan 19th: 8th graders will travel to the high school to hear about elective choices and tour the building. This will be a great opportunity for students to get familiar with the high school environment and become more aware of the opportunities available for interests outside of the required core classes.

Jan. 26th: Jackie Guenter and John Feldner (McFarland High School counselors) will be coming to IMMS in order to provide further information to students regarding high school and possible electives. These meetings will allow 8th graders to indicate their tentative elective choices.

Feb. 6th: This will be the Parent Orientation Meeting at the high school. Registration forms will be handed out and the process will be explained. After this meeting, you and your child can talk through all decisions for next year and make final choices regarding course selections. **Finalized registration forms with parent signatures will be due at IMMS by Feb 17th.** Please honor this deadline so that your child may be assured of getting the classes he or she has as their highest priority. If you have any questions, please call Jim Kramer at 838-4576 – he will be most happy to help!

Student Council Happenings

Fuel Up to Play 60



The IMMS Student Council, the Wisconsin Daily Council, & Fuel Up to Play 60 have teamed up to plan activities that promote students' healthy eating habits & exercise. Throughout the year IMMS students will have the opportunity to try WI dairy products and participate in a variety of physical activities. Our first student initiated activity is a Dodge Ball Tournament. Lots of prizes will be available for students and all participants will receive raffle tickets for end-of-the-year grand prizes. Please stay tuned for more information on this student wellness program and ways that IMMS families can help and benefit...like the "Walk the Drive" initiative!

All students and their families are encouraged to register at:

<http://www.fueluptoplay60.com/> to take advantage of additional opportunities to eat well, get moving, and stay healthy!



What else is the IMMS Student Council Doing?

- February leadership conference for all Student Council Reps. at Fast Forward Skate in Madison.
- All-School Dance on Monday, 12/19 (parent chaperones always welcome).
 - * When? December 19th from 3:20—5:25pm
 - * Who All IMMS Students Welcome
 - * Cost? \$4.00 admission
 - Treats? Pizza \$1.00, Pop \$.50, Treats, & Free Milk
- Ongoing work with Fuel Up to Play 60.
- Monthly themes for activities that benefit the IMMS students & staff, community senior citizens, & service projects.
- Student Initiated Wellness grants through Fuel-Up to Play 60
- Check out last year's SchoolTube healthy recipe video at: <http://www.schooltube.com/video/0b934359a05b59afd031/Fuel-Up-to-Play-60-Recipe-Challenge-Indian-Mound>

SCHOOL DANCES

Student Council sponsored dances are lots of fun for all IMMS students! Approximately 4 times each year, IMMS students will have the opportunity to participate in school dances. Here is a brief list of the information and behavior expectations:

- All students are welcome to participate.
- Tickets may be purchased prior to the dance or at the door for \$4.00.
- The dances usually run from approximately 3:20 – 5:30.
- Students **MUST** remain at the dance until 5:30 unless they have a parent note. (given to Mr. Kramer).
- Pizza (\$1.00) and pop (\$.50) will be on sale (free milk) for the students' enjoyment.
- Open gym is also available for students to enjoy.
- Respectful and appropriate behavior is expected.

Please arrange transportation for your student's departure from the dance.

We want **EVERYONE** to come out and have fun dancing, hanging out with friends, eating pizza, checking out the game room or open gym, and just helping make IMMS the great place it is!

Parent chaperones are always welcome and we promise to station you well away from your own children. Call Mr. Kramer at 838-4576 for more information.



Greetings from the Orchestra Room

The IMMS and WIS orchestras will be presenting a concert on Thursday, January 26 at 7PM at IMMS. Please come support the McFarland Orchestra Program.

Are you interested in playing a string instrument? We play violin, viola, and cello here at IMMS and you are welcome to join us.

Next year the orchestra will move into the high school. If you already play a string instrument, or know someone at the high school who does, contact Mrs. Hershey on a Wednesday or Thursday at IMMS or send her an email.

Musically,
Leanna Hershey
McFarland Orchestra Director
leanna_hershey@mcfarland.k12.wi.us

Library Matters

By Melanie Neal

Thank you to all who supported IMMS through the Book Fair this year. A percentage of the sales is used for stocking classroom libraries and the bookroom. Your support is always appreciated.

Tidbits!

Students should keep their library privileges current by making sure to return books on time. Materials that are more than **60 days overdue** will begin incurring a daily fine. Students are responsible for lost or damaged books.

Parents can help their students keep their library record up to date by reminding their child to login to Destiny often. Access to Destiny is available from any computer with the Internet. Just go to the McFarland homepage, click on "student resources", scroll down to Destiny, and click on the IMMS library link. Your child can then login and check their records from their "My Info" tab. Ask them to show you, they know how!!

Help your child remember: Their student ID everyday! It is needed for using the library and the lunch line. A quick reminder in the morning would really help.

Did you know?

All are available in the library:

- Lanyards for \$.50
- Replacement ID cards for \$5.00
- IMMS student phone directories for \$2.00
- McFarland Spartan folders for \$1.00

Fun Stuff!

- The title, *A Child Called It* by Dave Pelzer has been checked out the most so far this year.
- As of December 1st, over 5600 books have been checked out this year. Great reading!!
- We have added 250 new books to the library collection so far this year.

A few New Arrivals!

Cabin Fever by Jeff Kinney (Book #6 in the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series)

Saffique by Catherine Fisher

Titanic Series by Gordon Korman

Babymouse graphic novels by Jennifer Holm

Son of Neptune by Rick Riordan

Inheritance by Christopher Paolini

News from the Health Office

From Health Services- Here are some articles from the CDC with health and safety information for adolescents.

Are you a Teen Worker?

Does your teen work outside the home? Do you know if they are following proper workplace safety rules? Every nine minutes a teen worker gets hurt on the job. Check out this article and read it with your teen. **Stay safe and healthy at work!**

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2011-184/?source=govdelivery>

ACIP recommends all 11-12 year-old males get vaccinated against HPV

CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) approved recommendations for routine vaccination of males 11 or 12 years old with 3-doses of HPV4 to protect against Human Papilloma Virus. The HPV vaccine will afford protection against certain HPV-related conditions and cancers in males, and vaccination of males with HPV may also provide indirect protection of women by reducing transmission of HPV. Please check with your child's health care provider for their recommendations.

Parent Are the Key to Safe Teen Drivers

Most of you will have a teen driver. Driver inexperience is the main cause of teen crashes. Use the following information to guide you and your new driver along the road to safe driving.

<http://www.cdc.gov/parentsarethekey/index.html?source=govdelivery>

Take Concussions Out of Play: Learn to Prevent, Recognize, and Respond to Concussions

CDC estimates 173,285 sports- and recreation-related TBIs (traumatic brain injury), including concussions, among children and adolescents are treated in U.S. emergency departments each year.

The following link has information on signs and symptoms of concussions and what to do to help protect your child.

<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/ProtectYoungAthletes/?source=govdelivery>

Calendar at a Glance.....

December 22—January 2 Winter Break—No School

January 3 Classes Resume

January 12 6th Grade Band Concert-7:00PM

January 16 No School

January 20 **END OF 2ND QUARTER-No School**

February 20 Conference Release Day-No School

March 6 Choir Concert 7:00PM

March 23 **END OF 3RD QUARTER**

March 23—April 1 Spring Break— No School

April 2 Classes Resume

**Have a wonderful
winter vacation!**

U.S. BASEBALL ACADEMY



THE NATION'S LARGEST
TRAINING PROGRAM

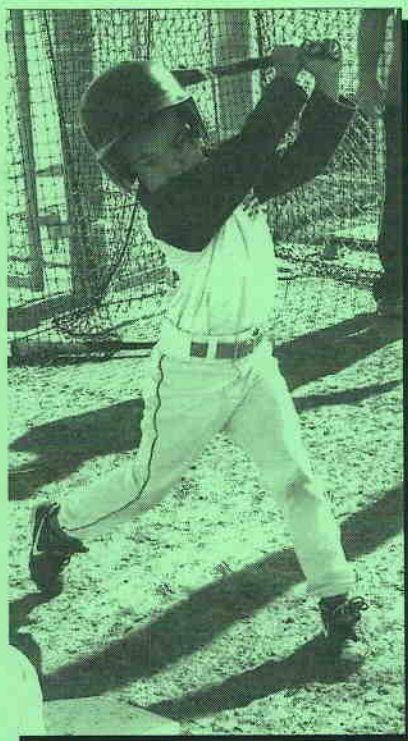
COMING TO

MCFARLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Feb. 18, 25; Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24

Advance registration required. See web site for deadline.

U.S. Baseball Academy's Spring Training 2012 is a unique concept that provides young players with advanced hitting, pitching, fielding/baserunning, catching training programs and instruction by some of the area's best coaches.



- ★ ***Sessions for grades 1 through 12*** include six weeks of instruction for as low as \$99.
- ★ ***A national baseball training program*** operated locally by Site Director John Feldner, Head Coach, McFarland HS.
- ★ ***With a player-coach ratio of 6 to 1***, each player gets plenty of individual attention in a small group atmosphere. In addition to unbeatable instruction by the area's best coaches, players get a preseason tune-up that helps them enter team practice in mid-season form. With numerous age-specific sessions, instruction is specially tailored for each ability level.
- ★ ***Register now, pay later.*** What better way to get a jump on the upcoming season than a six-week Spring Training experience, featuring instruction from some of the area's best coaches?

For a complete description of the program and registration forms, visit

www.USBaseballAcademy.com

If you do not have internet access, call our office at 866-622-4487

COOKIE

December | 2011
Market Day.

Bonus Days

Help your organization earn up to 45% profit
in December!



PLUS — GET BOTH FREE

FREE
KRAFT® Mac
& Cheese
Single Serve with any monthly
grocery program purchase



FREE
Meatballs
w/\$90 online purchase
Promo Code: DECBONUS



See marketday.com or December Order Guide for details — Order Today.

Support your school and get ready for the holidays with Market Day! Find delicious items for all your special occasions, quick meals for those busy days, and great gift items for everyone on your list.

This month, you can help us earn extra profit with Cookie Dough Bonus Days. Plus, get a **FREE** trial size Kraft Mac & Cheese with any purchase **AND** a **FREE** pound of Meatballs with a \$90 online purchase and promo code **DECBONUS**.

Profit This Year:	\$1,953
2011-2012 Goal:	\$5,500
Total Funds Raised:	\$103,497

Go Mobile!

Shop from anywhere on your web enabled phone at marketday.com.

This Month's Sale

Order Forms Due:	Wednesday, December 7 th
Internet Orders Due:	Saturday, December 10 th (11:00 PM)
Pick Up Date:	Wednesday, December 14 th 4:30 - 6:00 PM CEELC gym

Questions? Want to help? Contact Amy Lawrence or Mary Kopp at McFarlandMarketDay@gmail.com.